

¶62.32 COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK—MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PEASE, laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 9, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives. I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on June 9, 1997 at 2:34 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits proposed legislation entitled the "Cloning Prohibition Act of 1997."

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, House of Representatives.

¶62.33 CLONING PROHIBITION

The Clerk then read the message from the President, as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit today for immediate consideration and prompt enactment the "Cloning Prohibition Act of 1997." This legislative proposal would prohibit any attempt to create a human being using somatic cell nuclear transfer technology, the method that was used to create Dolly the sheep. This proposal will also provide for further review of the ethical and scientific issues associated with the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer in human beings.

Following the February report that a sheep had been successfully cloned using a new technique, I requested my National Bioethics Advisory Commission to examine the ethical and legal implications of applying the same cloning technology to human beings. The Commission concluded that at this time "it is morally unacceptable for anyone in the public or private sector, whether in a research or clinical setting, to attempt to create a child using somatic cell nuclear transfer cloning" and recommended that Federal legislation be enacted to prohibit such activities. I agree with the Commission's conclusion and am transmitting this legislative proposal to implement its recommendation.

Various forms of cloning technology have been used for decades resulting in important biomedical and agricultural advances. Genes, cells, tissues, and even whole plants and animals have been cloned to develop new therapies for treating such disorders as cancer, diabetes, and cystic fibrosis. Cloning technology also holds promise for producing replacement skin, cartilage, or bone tissue for burn or accident victims, and nerve tissue to treat spinal cord injury. Therefore, nothing in the "Cloning Prohibition Act of 1997" restricts activities in other areas of biomedical and agricultural research that involve: (1) the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer or other cloning technologies to clone molecules, DNA, cells, and tissues; or (2) the use of so-

matic cell nuclear transfer techniques to create animals.

The Commission recommended that such legislation provide for further review of the state or somatic cell nuclear transfer technology and the ethical and social issues attendant to its potential use to create human beings. My legislative proposal would implement this recommendation and assign responsibility for the review, to be completed in the fifth year after passage of the legislation, to the National Bioethics Advisory Commission.

I urge the Congress to give this legislation prompt and favorable consideration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 9, 1997.

By unanimous consent, the message was referred to the Committee on Commerce and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 105-97).

¶62.34 SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 610. An Act to implement the obligations of the United States under the Chemical Weapons Convention; to the Committee on International Relations and in addition, to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

¶62.35 BILL PRESENTED TO THE
PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight reported that that committee did on the following date present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title: On June 9, 1997: H.R. 1469. An Act making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, including those in Bosnia, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

¶62.36 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted—

To Mr. FLAKE, for today and balance of the week; and

To Mr. FARR, for today and balance of the week.

And then,

¶62.37 ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mrs. CHENOWETH, at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m., the House adjourned.

¶62.38 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Submitted June 9, 1997]

Mr. BLILEY: Committee on Commerce. H.R. 1277. A bill to authorize appropriations

for fiscal year 1998 and fiscal year 1999 for the civilian research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. No. 105-67 Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Submitted June 10, 1997]

Mr. SOLOMON: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 163. Resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 54) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States (Rept. No. 105-126). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. GOSS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 164. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 437) to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-127). Referred to the House Calendar.

¶62.39 PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. HYDE (for himself, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. STARK, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MARTINEZ, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CLAY, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. PARKER, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. BLILEY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BAKER, and Mr. CUMMINGS):

H.R. 1835. A bill to provide a more just and uniform procedure for Federal civil forfeitures; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURTON of Indiana (for himself and Mr. MICA):

H.R. 1836. A bill to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to improve administration of sanctions against unfit health care providers under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE:

H.R. 1837. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the penalty for the rape of juveniles in prison; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SHUSTER (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. GILCREST, and Mr. CLEMENT) (all by request):

H.R. 1838. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. WHITE (for himself, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. HORN, Mr. NORWOOD, and Ms. DUNN of Washington):

H.R. 1839. A bill to establish nationally uniform requirements regarding the titling and registration of salvage, nonrepairable, and rebuilt vehicles; to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.